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## FOUR NEW SUBSPECIES OF BIRDS FROM SOUTHWESTERN ASIA

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The following new subspecies were found during the working out of my collection from Iran, Afghanistan, and India. It seemed advisable to make these names available for the series of studies and revisions subtitled "Notes from the Walter Koelz Collections."

### ***Tetraogallus himalayensis bendi*, new subspecies**

TYPE: Adult female; Safedsang, Bend i Turkestan Range, northwestern Afghanistan, east of Maimana; September 22, 1939; Walter Koelz, collector. Deposited in the American Museum of Natural History.

DIAGNOSIS: Sexes similar in plumage. Differs from nominate *himalayensis* as follows: averages larger; buffier, less gray on the upper parts, especially the upper back, rump, and upper tail coverts; margins of the wing coverts, scapulars, and tertials lighter and creamier buff; black margins to the feathers of the sides and flanks tend to be reduced. Similar to *koslowi*, but differs in being much grayer on the under side, with less of a rufous or cinnamon wash; the breast especially is whiter.

MEASUREMENTS: Type, wing, 301 mm.; tail, 182; bill, from base of cere, 35. Three other adult females measure: wing, 295±, 296, 297; tail, 178, 180, 181; bill, 31, 34, 35. One sub-adult female measures: wing, 294; tail, 174; bill, 32.5.

RANGE: Known only from Safedsang and Burchao Pass, Bend i Turkestan Range, Afghanistan.

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<sup>1</sup> In care of the American Consul, Bombay, India.

REMARKS: Specimens from eastern Afghanistan, the region of Safed Koh, are identical with Indian birds.

***Mirafra erythroptera furva*, new subspecies**

TYPE: Adult female; Sihor, Kathiawar; January 26, 1949; Walter Koelz, collector. Deposited in the American Museum of Natural History.

DIAGNOSIS: Darker above, with deeper brown markings than in *M. e. sindiana*, but less rufous than nominate *erythroptera*; on the under parts the latter is more buffy than *sindiana* and *furva*. The bill in *furva* averages slightly shorter than in *sindiana*.

MEASUREMENTS: Type, wing, 74 mm.; tail, 46; bill from skull, 13.5. The type and six other specimens (two females and four males) from the same locality measure: wing, 74–81 (77.8); tail, 46–55 (50.3); bill, 12.5–14.5 (13.4).

RANGE: Known so far only from the above specimens.

REMARKS: In *sindiana* the populations from Sind and Rajputana are much paler than *furva*. The populations of *sindiana* get progressively darker as they range eastward into more humid regions, but the darkest populations are, in series, still paler than *furva*.

***Ammomanes deserti darica*, new subspecies**

TYPE: Adult male; Shiraz, Fars, southern Iran; March 15, 1940; Walter Koelz, collector. Deposited in the American Museum of Natural History.

DIAGNOSIS: Similar to *A. d. iranica* but paler, less gray above, and a little paler below; *iranica* and *darica* both lack entirely the warm pinkish tone of *cheesmani*.

MEASUREMENTS: Type, wing, 108 mm.; tail, 69; bill from skull, 18. In a series of *darica* from Fars, Yezd, and Laristan, the wing length in 16 males, including the type, ranges from 101 to 113, the tail from 66 to 75, and the bill from 16 to 18. In 11 females the range of measurements is, respectively, 93–106, 58–70, and 14.5–17.5.

RANGE: Southern Iran, in Fars and Yezd, or east of the range of *cheesmani* and west of the range of *iranica*. Specimens from Isin in Laristan north of Bandar Abbas are not separable from *darica*.

REMARKS: The type and all the specimens taken in Fars from March 12 to April 5 were collected while breeding.

***Ammomanes phoenicurus testaceus*, new subspecies**

TYPE: Adult male; Salem, Madras Presidency; March 8, 1948; Walter Koelz, collector. Deposited in the American Museum of Natural History.

DIAGNOSIS: More rufous above and below than nominate *phoenicurus*, less gray above, brighter and less gray below.

MEASUREMENTS: Type, wing, 108; tail, 64; bill from skull, 18. Fourteen specimens of *testaceus*, including the type, measure: wing, nine males, 102–112 (106.9); five females, 99–102 (101.4). Tail, males, 58–64 (62.0); females, 57–59 (57.5). Bill, males, 16.5–20 (18.3); females, 16–18 (17.1).

RANGE: The brighter *testaceus* appears to replace nominate *phoenicurus* south of a line running from Hubli in the west through the Bellary district of Madras to Ellore on the east.

